

Chief McGrath began his life of public service during World War II. From 1943–1947 he served in the United States Navy, defending our country as a member of the Submarine Service. After returning to civilian life and graduating college, he began a thirty year career as a Connecticut State Police Officer—where he achieved the rank of Captain. He began his tenure as Ansonia's police chief in 1981, and then held that position for nearly two decades.

Chief James J. McGrath has devoted his life to protecting the well-being of others. He worked tirelessly to ensure that Ansonia was a safe place to live and work for its families, children, and senior citizens. In fact, his dedication was such that during his 19 years as police chief, he never took a single sick day. I know that I speak for all Ansonia residents in saying that the city is deeply appreciative of his work and his leadership.

Perhaps there is no better way to illustrate Chief McGrath's commitment to public safety than to refer to his own words: "I'm as concerned about the welfare of the people of Ansonia as I am of my own family."

Mr. Speaker, Chief James J. McGrath deserves wide recognition for his lifelong dedication to law enforcement. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating this outstanding public servant, and to extend our best wishes as he embarks upon a well-deserved retirement.

#### GOLDEN TRIANGLE ENERGY COALITION PLANT

#### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 14, 2001*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the farmers-members of the Golden Triangle Energy Cooperative on the imminent success of the new ethanol plant in Craig, Missouri. The new plant will add value to members' agricultural commodities through efficient processing and bring renewed economic opportunity to Northwest Missouri. I am honored to have the Golden Triangle Energy Cooperative in my district.

On Saturday, February 17, 2001, we will celebrate the grand opening of the Golden Triangle Energy Coalition Plant. This plant will process 6 million bushels of corn each year, producing 15 million gallons of ethanol. This plant will not only benefit farmers, but also the environment and our consumers across the nation.

I am pleased that farmers in Northwest Missouri are making a positive impact on their rural community by expanding value-added markets, such as ethanol. In the past 10 years, more than 20 farmer-owned cooperatives were constructed nationwide. Today farmer-owned ethanol production facilities are responsible for one third of all U.S. ethanol production.

Farmers in Northwest Missouri are positioned to meet the nation's ethanol needs. Ethanol produced in Craig, Missouri will be sold across the country as a high-octane fuel bringing improved automobile performance to drivers while reducing air pollution. It is a clean-burning, renewable, domestically produced product. The new plant in Craig will cre-

ate jobs and provide value-added markets to bolster agriculture and our rural economy.

Again, I congratulate and commend the farmer-owners of the Golden Triangle Coalition on the opening of the nation's newest ethanol plant. I look forward to working with them in the future.

#### HONORING ANTHONY F. COLE

#### HON. JAMES A. LEACH

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 14, 2001*

Mr. LEACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extol the virtues and lament the retirement of Anthony F. "Tony" Cole after more than 25 years of federal service.

A scholar and a gentleman, Tony graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the College of William and Mary, earned a Masters in history from Rutgers, and his law degree from the Marshall-Wythe School of Law at William and Mary.

In 1975 Tony joined the staff of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, where he served as Deputy General Counsel of the Depository Institutions Deregulation Committee and later as Special Assistant to the Board as its liaison with Congress.

Leaving these real jobs, Tony came to the Hill in 1986 to serve first as Minority Counsel and then as Minority Staff Director for the House Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs.

During my tenure as Chairman of the House Committee on Banking and Financial Services, from January 1995 to the end of last year, Tony was the Staff Director for the Committee.

Tony's fine hand may be seen in all of the major legislation the Committee considered over the past 15 years, from the reform of the savings and loan industry (FIRREA), to the financial modernization bill (Gramm-Leach-Bliley), to debt relief for the poorest countries in the world.

As my colleagues know, the job of a committee staff director is one of the most demanding on Capitol Hill. It requires assuaging the easily bruised egos of the Members, administering a multimillion dollar budget, managing a 50-member professional and support staff, and coordinating with leadership. All this must be accomplished while having at one's finger tips an encyclopedic knowledge of both current statute and the legislative process.

Nobody did it better than Tony.

A consummate professional, Tony was respected by both sides of the aisle and revered by the staff he led by precept and example. A person of grace and good humor, he gave of himself unstintingly to this institution and in so doing to serving the people of the United States.

The House needs the likes of Tony Cole and he will be sorely missed.

It is with profound gratitude that I wish Tony all the best in a well-deserved retirement.

#### DEFENSE FUNDING

#### HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 14, 2001*

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, throughout our nation's history, our armed

forces fought bravely to preserve and protect the liberties we cherish. As of late, we have done much to recognize the accomplishments of the generation that fought the Second World War, and rightly so. But we should not forget the equally impressive job our military forces are doing today. They faced down aggression in Iraq; restored democracy in Haiti; and ended ethnic cleansing in the former Yugoslavia. In short, they have much to be proud of.

However, we are faced with some serious concerns. This increase in deployments and operations occurred during a time of military downsizing. It is clear to many we cannot, in good faith, ask our forces to be engaged around the world when they are stretched so thinly.

We have no choice but to embrace this opportunity and demonstrate our commitment to our military personnel. In this time of peace and budget surpluses, we must prepare for the threats that loom in the not-too-distant future by modernizing our military forces and investing in programs to recruit and retain quality military personnel.

We have done a great deal to ensure that our military forces are the best in the world, but the world is changing before our eyes—we need to do more. As we move through the budget process, let us show our support for these brave men and women by passing a responsible defense budget.

#### THE WAGE ACT

#### HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 14, 2001*

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Workers Access to Accountable Governance in Employment (WAGE) Act. This bill takes a first step toward restoring the rights of freedom of association and equal protection under the law to millions of American workers who are currently denied these rights by federal law.

The WAGE Act simply gives workers the same rights to hold decertification elections as they have to hold certification elections. Currently, while workers in this country are given the right to organize and have union certification elections each year, provided that 30 percent or more of the workforce wish to have them, workers are not given an equal right to have a decertification election, even if the same requirements are met.

As a result of the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) created contract-bar rule, if 30 percent or more of a bargaining unit wants to hold an election to decertify a union as their representative, they are prohibited from doing so unless the contract is in at least its third year.

In other words, it does not matter whether or not workers want to continue to have the union as their representative. It does not matter whether or not the union represents the will of the workers. It does not even matter if the majority of the current workforce voted for union representation. They must accept that representation.

Mr. Speaker, this is absurd. The lowest criminal in this country has the right to change